

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>
SUBJECT	Soviet Troop Movements	DATE DISTR.	23 April 1953
	25X1A	NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES	

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SOURCE:

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1. The Kindel troop training grounds were occupied by advance details prior to 18 April. The first troop trains arrived on that date. Three troop trains carrying elements of the 57th Guards Rifle Division from Naumburg were identified at the Eisenach railroad station.
2. Tank, mortar and artillery units from the Tannenberg Kaserne in Weimar were dispatched in the direction of Erfurt between 15 and 17 April.¹
3. Elements of the 21st Guards Mechanized Division from the Heide Kaserne in Halle were dispatched toward Erfurt between 14 and 18 April. Twenty-one JS tanks, 32 T-34/85 tanks, 34 SP guns and an undetermined number of rocket launchers, AT guns armored scout cars and mortars were among the materiel entrained with the troops.²
4. Several troop trains with units of the 8th Guards Mechanized Division were dispatched from Leisnig toward Koenigsbrueck.
5. On 15 April, a train carrying rocket launchers and soldiers was seen at the Meissen railroad station, enroute to Leipzig. The barracks in Zachendorf were being vacated. The Napola installation in Dresden-Klotzsche quartered only a rear detail on 14 April.

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6. Between 600 and 800 engineers, probably belonging to the 36th Pontoon Bridge Regiment of the GOFG in Magdeburg, arrived at the engineer training site east of Rosslau between 8 and 10 April.
7. On 15 April, motor vehicles of the 7th Guards Tank Division and nine tanks from the Gross Kuehnau camp were loaded on five trains at the Dessau railroad station.
8. Forty-two T-34 tanks and other equipment were dispatched from Cottbus toward Weisswasser between 15 and 17 April. Other units stationed in the Dissenchen and Alvensleben casernes marched by road toward Muskau. A train carrying 15 JSU-152's passed through Cottbus, enroute to Weisswasser, on 16 April.
9. Units of the 7th Guards Mechanized Division from the barracks on Braunsdorferstrasse in Fuerstenwalde were entrained on five trains between 15 and 17 April.
10. Troops were unloaded at the Dranse and Wittstock railroad stations between 12 and 18 April. Four of the trains unloaded at Dranse carried a total of 53 tanks and SP guns. An undetermined number of tanks, howitzers and mortars were unloaded from four of the trains arriving at Wittstock.

25X1A Comment.

1. The presence of 300 flatcars and boxcars at the Weimar railroad station had been observed on 9 April. It is believed that the entrained troops, probably elements of the 20th Guards Mechanized Division, moved to Camp Crawinkel near Ohrdruf.
2. The division moved to the Lossa training grounds.

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